



Whitfield
District Primary School



NEWSLETTER

Term 4
December 4th, 2019

Exceptional Educational Experiences

DATES TO REMEMBER

4-6 Personal Development – Moyhu 1:30	Thur 5 th Dec
Grade 6 transition week Wang HS	Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th
Selected 4/5's Woorabinda camp	Mon 9 th – Fri 13 th
Statewide transition day	Tues 10 th Dec
School Council Meeting 6pm @ the Oven	Wed 11 th Dec
Prep/1/2 campout at school	Thur 12 th Dec
End of year concert at Cheshunt Hall	Thur 19 th Dec

SCHOOL CALENDAR DATES

Stick the latest newsletter on your fridge!

HOME READING



We have a number of students who have gained a certificate!

Congratulations 100 nights home reading:

Maya, Kody

Congratulations 150 nights home reading:

Joah

Congratulations 125 nights home reading:

Johann

Congratulations 225 nights home reading:

Claire



Literacy corner



WHITFIELD ADVENTURE SCHOOL

What I learnt from camp. By Claire

I learnt how to read a map to try and find out where we are. To do that you look at the contour lines. If they are really close together then that means that the hill is steep - if they are far apart then it is flat. A saddle is the part between two hills. The summit is the highest point of a hill. You can identify these landmarks by looking at contour lines. You can also find out where you are by looking for creeks, rivers, intersections and sharp corners. Then you find where that is on the map. It is also very important to orientate the map so you know which way to go. I noticed that on the second day, while we were bike riding, we had really bad weather and that slowed us down so we took longer. Also on the third day some people walked to camp and the others went in cars. I had such a great time and have learnt so much about maps!

The landscape.

On camp we learned that the landscape on the mountain was never flat, always bumpy and rocky. Lots of rocks were everywhere that were hard to climb. The bike ride showed us how diagonal the land was in the mountains. Why is it like that?
Wind and water were a factor in knocking and carving the rocks. The dirt layer on top of Mt Stirling was washed away to leave the giant rocks, sharp and broken. Water washed rocks and stone down, it also broke larger rocks into smaller stones. The ground has lots of different rocks like granite. Rivers like the King River carved the rock away as well, forming the river bed. Also the river compressed sand into sandstone. The bigger rocks in the river help to shape the river. Also the river carves the rocks slowly, normally rounded in the river. This happens because the water tumbles bits of the rock against other rocks. By Robert

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web: www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au

One thing I learnt on Adventure camp

Written by Emilio Miliankos-King.

On Adventure camp at Mt Stirling, I learnt that Mt Stirling and paddocks below were actually where farmers used to herd and keep their cows. When the weather was bad or something went wrong, the farmers would stay in those huts around the mountain. Most huts actually got burnt down during fires, but were rebuilt for history, emergency shelter and for schools like ours to go inside and read about it. One hut (GGS Hut) 300-500m or so down from the summit, had an escape window in the attic with a ladder coming to the ground. When it snowed high and the door was jammed in people who stayed there would climb in and out the window.

One challenge that I faced on adventure camp

One challenge for me personally was getting enough sleep. I'm used to getting up late and changing my morning schedule was hard. The first morning I was woken up at 5:20am and that day was the bike ride it was cold and windy and very tiring. Every day was hard work and throughout most of the camp sleep was an issue, but luckily for me Friday morning wasn't as rushed. We made it to the lake on the last day and went home.



Mount Stirling summit tree.

I learnt that up at mount Stirling, there is a very special tree called the Summit Tree. The thing people probably saw the most up at the summit was the Summit Tree. It is the only tree that's up at the summit. The tree is 331 years old. The reason it's the only tree up there, is because it has adapted to the winds and weather of the summit. The tree can clearly be seen once up at the summit. It's amazing how it's the only tree up there, all by its self.

A challenge I faced on camp.

While on camp, I faced the challenge of having to pack up my sleeping bag and tent. I usually got really stressed about it but I also got lots of help from the people I was in a tent with. With the tents, they were easier than the sleeping bags because they're not as fat as the sleeping bags, and the bag was a bit

bigger. It was a bit hard if you were tired and had not much sleep. But we all managed.

By Ollie

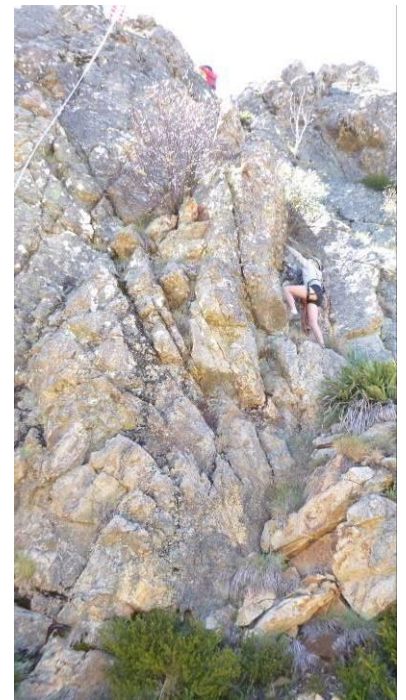


3/6 Mount Stirling camp!

On camp I learnt what the egg and bacon flower tasted like, I personally did not like it at all and it left a disgusting aftertaste.

On camp my challenge was rock climbing up the rock face. Because I was scared of the height of it. Once I got to the top I was proud of myself because I had made it to the top. Strategies

I used to overcome my fear was try not to look down and to remember that the ropes can hold me. Also to remember that other people younger than me have done it so I probably



can do it too. I Made it to the top and saw . the great view.

By Milly.



Creek Walk

On the creek walk I had a sore knee because I hit it on a rock when we had at our lunch break so I had to put up with that, then I rolled my ankle on a rock when I slipped in the creek and hurt my back, but it felt better when I got in the water and the water was cold and fresh when you have been out of it for a while. I was so glad when we got to camp I was so tired I went to bed and fell asleep in second. By Paul

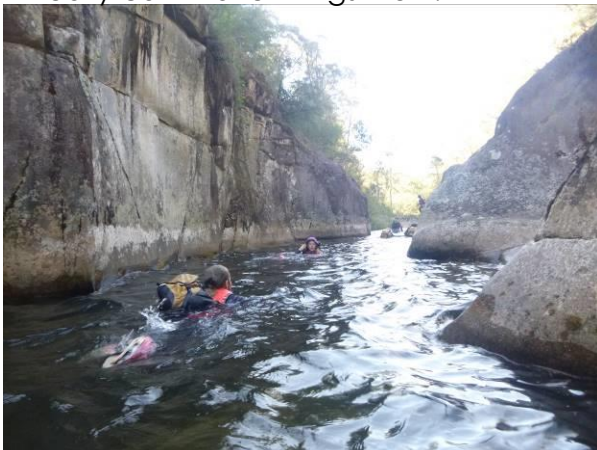


What I learned on camp.

Most flowers flower in Spring, well that is if you are in the peppermint forest. But for us we were in the alpine and the flowers come out in Summer. Flowers come out in Spring because it is wet and sunny. Alpine flowers come out in Summer. Up higher instead of rain you get snow, and snow is not warm! At the start of the trip I did not get why there were no flowers. I was questioning why I saw flowers when I went with Dad. And now I know it was because it was Summer!

One of the many, many, activities we did was... A Creek Walk! For me I found this the enjoyable and most challenging activity. For some it was slightly more challenging, for others it was less of a challenge. I found it in between. As I was walking my foot got stuck in between some rocks it was hard to get out. Zoi (who I was walking with) helped me and got it out! The day carried on 'The thing that got me through the challenge was teamwork'. Teamwork really can make things work.

By
Isabelle

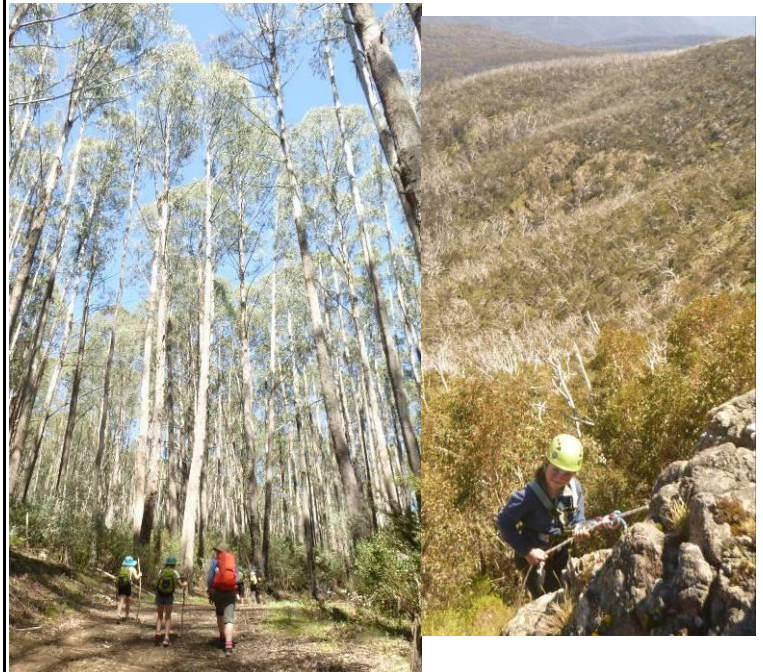


The tree altitude change of Mount Stirling

On camp I learnt about Alpine Ashes and Snow Gums. Alpine Ash usually grows further down the mountain. Snow gums grow near the top of Mt Stirling. Of course there would be more trees at Mt Stirling but those are the ones that I learnt about. Some of the trees on Mt Stirling died from a fire. It killed most of the trees on Mt Stirling, most of the trees grow again over time. Some of the dead trees are still standing but their leaves are gone. But most grow back. And that is good for our nature.

Sleeping in a tent

It was hard to sleep the first night because people were snoring and there was hail. People were talking at 5:30am. It was hard for me to get to sleep. By Zoi



What I learnt and a challenge on camp.

I have learned about the Mountain Pepper (Tasmania Lanceolata). It is a small plant with a red stem and small leaves, the leaves taste like a normal pepper, just a little less spicy. The Mountain Pepper is different to a normal pepper because it is just a leaf and the normal pepper is red, big and not a leaf. It takes a very long time to find them, they are more towards stage 2 of the altitude change.

One of the many challenges we all faced was the bike ride. We had to practice before riding because it was wet and to see if our bikes were working. It was cold and wet, it started off raining then sleet and then hail! The bike ride was challenging because of how steep the hills were, it was also hard because we had to keep changing the gears. The way we worked with this problem is we got warm clothes on and got on the bus after lunch. By Amy



What I learnt at Mt Stirling

I learnt about rocks and how they break. When there is water in the cracks of the rocks it freezes and it expands and it breaks. How conglomerate rocks are made. They are from old creek beds and it breaks. A conglomerate is lots of rocks stuck together.

The cuckoo bird goes around and lays egg in other birds nest. Small birds' nests. So the egg takes the whole nest. When the baby cries the other birds think it is their bird so the mum does not have to feed it all the time. By Emily



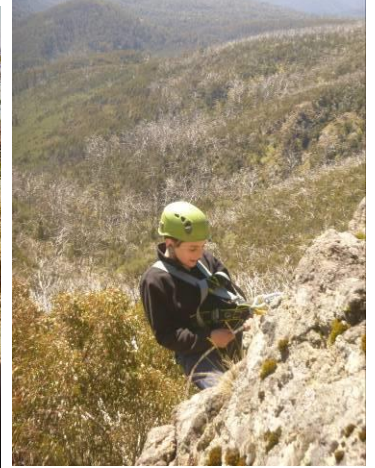
The summit of Mt. Stirling!

At the end of the hike to the summit of Mt. Stirling, it was so windy that there were no trees except for one: the summit tree. It is windy enough to blow off our hats (If they aren't on tight enough)! We found that out because Mike had his hat blown off first. We also had a huge group photo and before we left, Mike had his hat blown off another 7 times so I had to go get the same hat over and over again which really got on my nerves.

Abseiling.

After rock climbing we had an option of walking down on a separate route to get down from the rock face or we could abseil back down. I chose the abseil way but I didn't

really want to when I had to lean back on a small cliff to start abseiling. It was very scary that I felt like I was going to fall. But on the bright side, I knew I was connected to a very strong rope, but it still felt scary. When I started abseiling I was even more scared than before so I slowly stepped down the wall. I felt like I couldn't go any further because I was frozen in fear, I tried to think of a way to coordinate my body but I couldn't think so I took deep breaths and I was back on track, I continued down and I learnt that there is always a way to overcome things like abseiling and other scary things like rock climbing. By Owen.



How Mt. Stirling was made.

On camp I learnt how Mt. Stirling was made. Over thousands of years North East Victoria has had so much rain that it has washed basically all the basalt rock away. After a few more years of rain on the very top of Mt. Stirling there was a rock. It was the summit of Mt Stirling. That's how Mt. Stirling was made. Wirra and Owen told me this. By Inanay



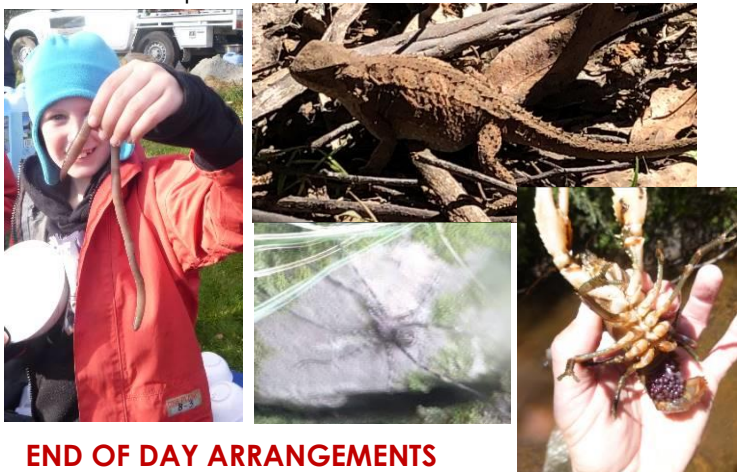
I have decided to give you a bit more detail on Mount Stirling being made. Millions of years ago there was no Mount Stirling everything was under the sea. Sea shells and other things (mud, rocks, sand) got laid down in different layers. Then there was some volcanic action and mountains started to be made under the sea. But as they got bigger the sea receded and we were left with mountains one of those was mount Stirling. Mount Stirling had a cap of

basalt (basalt is made when lava breaks through the surface and cools.) the rest was granite (which is formed when lava cools underground.) After millions of years of rain the basalt cap got eroded and we were left with a smaller mount Stirling made of granite. Some of The basalt that got washed away is now in the basalt scree slopes on the sides of Mt. Stirling.
By Wirra



Mini Beasts on Adventure Camp

I learnt how to know what mini beasts are which by looking at how many legs, tails and eyes they have. I also learnt that in every mini beast's lifecycle the baby lives in water to start off with, then it grows up and becomes a flying/walking/running/or swimming mini beast. A creature that wasn't on my list of mini beasts was the giant earthworm, normally earthworms grow to a small size, and scrub worms grow to a big size, but this grew to the scrub worm size, another mini beast I saw that wasn't on my list was an underwater spider that basically lives on rocks underwater. I saw most of the mini beasts that were on my list. A couple that I didn't see were the Mt Stirling stonefly and the Red back spider. By Judd



END OF DAY ARRANGEMENTS

Please do not leave messages on the school landline for end of day arrangements. We often do not have the ability to answer the phone whilst we are teaching and cannot check the messages until after school.

The OSH phone **0448 298 467** and school mobile **0428 298 286** are both checked every day prior to dismissal at 3:30pm. Messages are conveyed directly to students. **Please ensure your message is provided before 3:25pm.**

ROCK CLIMBING

I learned how to be brave when I was rock climbing. I had butterflies in my tummy when I looked up at the rock face. Yikes. It was scary hanging over the cliff when I was abseiling. It felt like I was going to fall but I was strapped in the safety harness so I knew I would be okay. Pete and Dave were up the top encouraging me. When I got to the bottom I was proud of myself because I abseiled. By Toria.



COOKING TERM 4

Please let the school know if you would like to help out with the cooking sessions in term 4
Tuesday 10th Dec Sandy/Christos

Grade 1-2 Camp to Bright

We drove to the museum it was cool I liked seeing gold bars. We went to our cabins. Next we walked to the splash park and I played in the creek. Next we went to the pool it was great because it was warm. We were there for ages, I did a belly flop. I filled my sock with rocks then I dived in to get my sock. I swam from one end to the other it was fun. I went to the really warm part. I swam under Nina, Tobias, Johann, Joah and Aroha. I liked it! Then we had to go to our cabins and I went in to the shower. I was cold. I felt happy about the camp it was great the end. By Kody



LAST SOCIAL ENTERPRISE STALL THIS FRIDAY!

The final stall starts at 2.30pm and ends at 3.20pm. Sadly, no more lasagne orders will be taken ☹️ We do have cards for sale.

The other produce available is...

Cabbage = \$2.50 each Red onion = \$1 per 3
Garlic = \$1 per head Kohlrabi = \$1 each
Snow peas = \$1.50 per 100g
We hope you enjoy our last social enterprise!
By Normie.

Grade 1-2 Camp to Bright

My favourite thing was the Museum. The first carriage had a meat mincer and there were old bottles.

Then we went to the splash park, I went in the river. Nina, Joah and I were cold so we laid on warm rocks.

Day 2. We went to the deer and emu farm. A deer licked my finger then I saw an ostrich. A baby goat sucked my finger and an emu pecked my hand. Later we went home! By Johann



presented with a certificate and enjoyed supper with their family and each other.



Social Enterprise Awards

The 4-6 students went to Beechworth to showcase their business in the Social Enterprise Marketplace and receive certificates for their efforts this year. The students did a fantastic job at spruiking their business and cause and sold most of their produce, as well as educate people on what Kohlrabi is (before it sold out).



Grade 6 Graduation Dance

The King Valley Cluster grade 6 graduation dance was held on Monday at the Greta Hall. The students showcased three dances and waltzed with a family member. Students were

End of year concert – Robin of Sherwood

The end of year play this year is Robin of Sherwood. A stellar cast of Prep-grade 6 students will be performing this comical play. They will also be playing the music in the live band. Students have a disc to practice the songs at home and should be memorising their lines. The show starts at 6pm sharp on Thursday 19th December at the Cheshunt Hall. The students have been rehearsing well.



Bright Camp

Day one: My favourite things were the pool and the big park. I liked doing bellyflops. Before that we went to the museum, all the things were in a train. There was also a jail, and a dummy gave me a fright. Day two: We played mini golf. Then we went home. By Nina



All school newsletters are available on the school website;

www.whitfieldps.vic.edu.au

The Bright Camp

My favourite part is the pool it was my favourite because it was warm. It had a spa bath. Before we went in the pool we played in the Splash Park, it had arches and they sprayed us with water. After that we went under a huge bucket of water and it fell on us.
By Joah



Bright camp Yrs 1-2 Whitfield, 2019

Day One: We went to the cabins it looked cool I was on the bottom bunk. Then we got dressed I had dinosaur swimmers. At the splash park me and Johann went under the bucket it was fun.

Day two: We woke up, we made our bed then we made a sandwich. Then we went to the deer farm we all saw a deer and an emu and an ostrich. By Tobias



Interviews with Preps for 2020 – By Delilah This was an interview of the preps

Ruby:

Do you have a pet? Yes.
What are you excited to learn? Maths and spelling.
What was your favourite thing to do at kinder? Playing outside.
What do you do at home? Lego
Are you excited to go to school? Yes

Maxwell:

Do you have a pet? Yes
What are you excited to learn? Art
What your favourite thing to do at kinder? Playing Lego
What do you do at home? Playing Legos and dinosaurs
Are you excited to go to school? Yes

Liam:

Do you have a pet? Yes
What are you excited to learn? Maths & sport
What your favourite thing to do at kinder? Playing dinosaurs.
Are you excited to go to school? Yes

Ellie:

Do you have a pet? Yes
What are you excited to learn? Maths, spelling and reading.
What your favourite thing to do at kinder? Playing outside
What do you do at home? Play with the dog
Are you excited to go to school? Yes

We also have Lalia joining us in Prep and Sylvie in grade 1 next year.

We will also be welcome Sarah Patterson to the Whitfield staff team 3 mornings per week next year for some literacy sessions and support. An exciting 2020 ahead for WDPS.

King River water quality

The King River is a lot cleaner at its starting point up at Mt Stirling than where we live. The reason for that is the sediment that comes in to the river. Starting off the river is very small & a little bit dirtier than the rest of the river because it is surrounded by soft dirt that falls into it. The soft dirt is because it crosses a track. A track that is regularly walked on. Our school saw spots along it and they were nearly crystal clear. As you gradually move along it will get dirtier because more people use spots lower down the river. Spots like Lake William Hovel, McCormick's hole, Hamilton's Bridge and people own properties. We walked in Evans Creek and all our sediment made the water a little dirtier. That little piece of dirt matters though. Some people will notice that in Moyhu the river is quite dirty. In Wangaratta it hard to see the bottom. That piece of sediment has joined up with lots of others and they all make an impact. We are not the only things that add the sediment though. Creeks are ideal habitats for living creatures and plants to live by. Crayfish, little fish, frogs and other living creatures were all seen on our trip. Lots of animals like to drink from the creek and eat plants that are living by the creek. A dead deer that had drowned created a lot of sediment in Evans Creek. Creeks and rivers are beautiful natural places that should be admired. By Ned



Wangaratta High School Orientation Week



2020 YEAR 7 ORIENTATION WEEK
9th - 13th DECEMBER

WANGARATTA HIGH SCHOOL

- Students are to wear their primary school uniform
- There will be a short assembly in the FLC on Monday morning to welcome the students and hand out information
- Students will be in their proposed Mentor Group for 2020 and will be given a timetable for the week
- Students will be allocated lockers
- There will be a Movie Night on Friday 13th - further information will be provided
- If you require bus travel for the week or have any other questions please contact the general office on 5723 0500



LEARNING MATTERS • RELATIONSHIPS MATTER • I MATTER

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are getting close to our full Orientation Week for Year 6 into Year 7!

To help make the transition as seamless as possible please refer to the flyer attached for some key information. Additionally you may want to consider the following:

- **If your child needs to use a bus to get to school for Orientation Week you will need to have organised paperwork with our Bus Coordinator, Lisa Norris. Please make contact with Lisa ASAP if you need help with this:**

Phone: 03 5723 0500

Email: norris.lisa.l4@edumail.vic.gov.au

- Students need to be at the school before 9 o'clock we ensure that staff are there to meet the students
- The canteen is open to purchase recess and lunch – there are a variety of healthy options available
- Remember a water bottle, hat and sunscreen (especially for PE classes)
- Our class schedule is outlined below. If your child currently has their main lunch earlier in the day they may need to eat more at Recess so they are not starving by lunch time.
- You will likely find that your child feels quite tired at the end of each day. We encourage our new Year 7s to get a minimum of 8-10 hours of sleep per night.

Orientation Week is an opportunity to build further on relationships and connections made during our Transition Activity Day, as well as to form connections with their various teachers.

On the home front there are a number of ways you can support your child as they enter high school. Those of you who are first-timers in this process may find information on the following sites helpful:
<https://raisingchildren.net.au/pre-teens/school-education/school-choosing-starting-moving/starting-secondary-school>

<https://www.learningpotential.gov.au/starting-high-school>

<http://theconversation.com/how-to-help-your-kids-transition-to-high-school-81018>

For our returning families we welcome you back to this exciting process and look forward to continue the positive relationship with you and your child over the coming years.

If you have any questions about Orientation Week please don't hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,

John Paola Ph: 5723 0500

Middle Years Coordinator

Transition Coordinator – Wangaratta High School.

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Warning Bell	8:54	8:54	8:54	8:54	8:54
Session 1	9:00 - 9:50	9:00 - 9:48	9:00 - 9:50	9:00 - 9:48	9:00 - 9:50
Session 2	9:50 - 10:40	9:48 - 10:36	9:50 - 10:40	9:48 - 10:36	9:50 - 10:40
MG		10:36 - 11:00		10:36 - 11:00	
Recess	10:40 - 11:15	11:00 - 11:25	10:40 - 11:15	11:00 - 11:25	10:40 - 11:15
Warning Bell	11:10	11:20	11:10	11:20	11:10
Session 3	11:15 - 12:03	11:25 - 12:13	11:15 - 12:03	11:25 - 12:13	11:15 - 12:03
Session 4	12:03 - 12:51	12:13 - 1:01	12:03 - 12:51	12:13 - 1:01	12:03 - 12:51
Lunch	12:51 - 1:49	1:01 - 1:49	12:51 - 1:49	1:01 - 1:49	12:51 - 1:49
Warning Bell	1:43	1:43	1:43	1:43	1:43
Session 5	1:49 - 2:37	1:49 - 2:37	1:49 - 2:37	1:49 - 2:37	1:49 - 2:37
Session 6	2:37 - 3:25	2:37 - 3:25	2:37 - 3:25	2:37 - 3:25	2:37 - 3:25

COMMUNITY NOTICE

Rosie Suter has a plastic bottle greenhouse project she is working on and would love to collect your PET plastic bottles. Please see Rosie at end of day pick up or call/text on 0418 503 946 if you have some bottles. ☺



'THUMBS UP' AWARD

The Principal's 'Thumbs Up' Award recipients are students that have



been seen doing great things at our school.

Kody: For showing great interest in all camp activities.

Milly: For her great support and caring of her 'creek walk buddy' on camp.

Zac: For his positive approach to all activities on camp and his helping of others.

Paul: For his determination and persistence in all activities on camp.

We have a few camp articles that were not quite ready in time (and I ran out of space)! They'll be in the next edition.